

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing usage of a plurality of standby resources included within a plurality of computers in a capacity on demand computer system, wherein each computer of the plurality of computers includes at least one standby resource of the plurality of standby resources physically dispersed thereto, wherein a source computer among the plurality of computers includes a first plurality of standby resources physically dispersed thereto, a first subset of which are available and a second subset of which are unavailable for use by the source computer, and wherein a destination computer among the plurality of computers includes a second plurality of standby resources physically dispersed thereto, a first subset of which are available and a second subset of which are unavailable for use by the destination computer, the method comprising:

limiting availability to a first standby resource included within the first subset of standby resources in the first plurality of standby resources physically dispersed to the [[a]] source computer of the plurality of computers; and
in connection with limiting the availability to the first standby resource, programmatically transferring the availability to a second standby resource included within the second subset of standby resources in the second plurality of standby resources physically dispersed to the [[a]] destination computer such that an aggregate total of standby resources made available to the source and destination computers is maintained after the availability has been transferred of the plurality of computers, wherein the source and destination computers are geographically dispersed from one another.

2. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes verifying the limiting availability.

3. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes maintaining a physical distribution of the first and second standby resources as between the source and destination computers.

4. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes maintaining respective workloads as between the source and destination computers.

5. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes updating an entitlement database.

6. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein limiting the availability further includes generating a request to downgrade the availability.

7. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, further comprising using an entitlement application computer to manage the usage.

8. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein limiting the availability further includes generating a request to upgrade the availability.

9. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein limiting the availability further includes generating a signature indicative of the availability.

10. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein limiting the availability further includes generating an activation code.

11. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein limiting the availability further includes determining the first standby resource.

12. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes determining the second standby resource.

13. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes generating an activation code.

14. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes storing data associated with the transferring.

15. (Original) The method for managing usage of the plurality of standby resources of claim 1, wherein transferring the availability further includes determining an availability status using an entitlement database.

16. – 36. (Canceled)